



**US Army Corps
of Engineers®**
Nashville District

J. Percy Priest Lake

Lake Casts



Spring 2005

J. PERCY PRIEST LAKESHORE CLEANUP

Looking for an interesting way to spend a day at J. Percy Priest Lake? Come to our annual J. Percy Priest Spring Lakeshore Cleanup on April 2, 2005. Volunteers will gather at the J. Percy Priest Visitor Center parking lot or Long Hunter State Park Visitor Center for cleanup activities from 9 a.m.- 12 noon. Lakeshore cleanup efforts will concentrate on established bank fishing areas, islands, and other areas not frequented by regular litter pickup. Participants will be provided trash bags, gloves, and refreshments.

REAL PLAN IMPROVEMENTS AT J. PERCY PRIEST LAKE

Visitors to J. Percy Priest will see a number of improvements to project facilities this spring. Several recreation areas at J. Percy Priest were impacted by the Recreation Excellence at Army Lakes (REAL) Program in 2004 due to closure or management change. This allowed us to reinvest in improvements at more highly used recreation areas.



Improvements to recreation areas at J. Percy Priest Lake include:

- Redesign of the J. Percy Priest Overlook to improve the use and functionality of the area. A one-way loop road was established to improve traffic flow and safety of visitors using the area, and a level turf area was established.
- Construction of a park attendant campsite and renovations to the comfort station at Smith Springs Recreation Area. A volunteer park host will help oversee the area.
- Improvements made at Anderson Road Day Use were in response to customer comments gathered as well as planned improvements. Anderson Road Walking



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Trail was paved, and additional signage and trailhead improvements were made. The Day Use entrance loop road was also paved to allow project rangers to better manage traffic during peak visitation periods.

Additional facilities such as grills, trash receptacles, and picnic tables have been added. Shoreline erosion control around the fringes of the recreation area, as well as vegetative clearing along roadways and parking areas, was performed to improve visitor safety and security.

In addition to these improvements, service levels for caretaker services such as litter pickup, mowing and other customer services were increased to better serve customer needs in more heavily used recreation areas. Continued improvements to project facilities are being considered to benefit recreational users at J. Percy Priest.

J. PERCY PRIEST MASTER PLAN UPDATE

The J. Percy Priest Lake Master Plan is about to receive an update. The J. Percy Priest Lake Master Plan is a working document used by project natural resources management personnel to manage project resources and to set the course for future interests impacting project resources. The J. Percy Priest Lake Master Plan was last updated in 1986, and many challenges and changes have occurred since. The Master Plan update provides a means to clarify project authorized purposes, outline project resource objectives, and incorporate the U. S. Army Corps of Engineers Chief of Engineers Environmental Operating Principles into the document.

An update of the J. Percy Priest Lake Master Plan will provide natural resources management personnel a tool to address requests for use of public lands and waters. An interdisciplinary team comprised of Corps, state and Federal agencies, and local and project shareholders will be formed to review the existing master plan, provide suggestions



for improvements, and review the draft and final master plan. Important elements of the master plan update will include updating the status of recreational areas on J. Percy Priest, identification and classification of project environmentally sensitive areas, and establishment of outgrant utility corridors to better manage requests for use of public lands and waters.

The J. Percy Priest Master Plan update will be developed using a watershed ecosystem approach to better identify and describe impacts to the Stones River watershed, and will incorporate elements of Geo



spatial Data System information to project features and interests. The implications of the master planning process will further environmental education aims, and apply more importance to Nashville District policy updates such as cut and fill policy, mitigation policy, cultural and historic protection policy, and land and water use policy.

The status of the master plan update will be posted on the J. Percy Priest Lake Webpage under Events/Activities/News at <http://www.lrn.usace.army.mil/op/jpp/rec/>.

NEW BOATING LAW

A new boating law is now in affect for Tennessee boaters. Anyone born after January 1, 1989 must obtain the TWRA issued wallet Boating Safety Education Certificate as proof of successful completion of the TWRA Boating Safety exam. How do you take the exam? You must first purchase a boat safety exam permit from any business (license agent) that sells hunting and fishing licenses. Locations for the exam will be available across the entire state. Lists of the locations, dates and times will be posted on the TWRA website:

<http://www.tnwildlife.org>
or call 1-800-837-6012 for information.



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Volunteer Clearinghouse
1-800-865-8337
www.lrn.usace.army.mil/volunteer

VOLUNTEERS

We would like to take this opportunity to thank the many volunteers that have contributed their time and efforts to our lake this past year. Volun-

teers do make a difference!! There are many more opportunities for volunteering during the upcoming season. Examples include: lakeshore cleanup, Park Host, Visitor Center, primitive camping work, trails, fisheries management and maintenance to name a few. Contact Park Ranger Robert Davis for more information .

The four major causes of drownings are:

- ✓ Not wearing a life jacket;
- ✓ Abuse of alcohol;
- ✓ Lack of sufficient swimming skills;
- ✓ Hypothermia

***Wear your
life jacket!***



CAMPING ON J. PERCY PRIEST

Looking for great camping opportunities close to home? J. Percy Priest has three developed campgrounds to suit your needs.

Seven Points Campground offers 60 campsites with water and electrical hookups and is conveniently located off Interstate 40 in Hermitage. Seven Points will be open from April 1st through October 31st.

Poole Knobs Campground has 88 campsites with water and electric hookups, it is located in the Smyrna-Lavergne community. Poole Knobs will be open from May 2nd through October 3rd.

Anderson Road Campground has 37 campsites and is located in the Antioch area. Anderson Road Campground will be open from May 23rd through September 5th.

OFF ROAD VEHICLES

Driving trucks, ATV's and bikes off road can be fun ,however it can also be an illegal and destructive activity when it is not done in its proper place. There are no areas on J. Percy Priest Lake where it is legal to operate a vehicle off road. Driving off road on J. Percy Priest Lake damages public lands, opens areas to illegal dumping and harms habitat of endangered plants. Driving off road on government property can also be a



violation of local, state and federal laws and regulations. Violation of these laws and regulations can sub-

ject violators to being cited into local, state or federal courts. Anyone who wishes to report someone driving off road should contact the Resource Manager's Office at 615-889-1975. If someone is crossing your private property to access government land , you may want to contact your local law enforcement agency.

SHORT CASTS

Special Events

- Shoreline Cleanup- April 2nd.
- Stakeholder Meeting April 28th.
- Environmental Awareness Day- May 10th.
- National Safe Boating Week- May 21-31st.
- Fishing Rodeo -June 11th.
- National Public Land Day - September 17th.



Need Information?

Do you need information on J. Percy Lake? Check out the J. Percy Priest Lake website at <http://www.lrn.usace.army.mil/op/jpp/rec/> . Information can also be obtained by contacting the Resource Manager's Office at (615) 889-1975.

Policy Changes At Anderson Road

The fee for reserving a shelter at Anderson Road Day Use area has been reduced from \$120.00 to \$40.00 with a \$4.00 charge per vehicle. Anyone wanting to reserve a shelter can call Reserve America at 1-877-444-6777 or online at: <http://www.reserveusa.com>.

J. PERCY PRIEST DAY USE AREAS

The day use areas on J. Percy Priest will open on April 1st 2005. Use fees will again be charged at Anderson Road and Cook Day Use Areas only. Don't forget that pets are not allowed at the fee day use areas! For the coming season, a flat fee of \$ 4.00 will be charged per vehicle for boat launching, beach use or picnicking. There is a 50% discount for holders of Golden Age or Golden Access Passports. Golden Eagle Passports do not apply at Corps of Engineers Recreation Areas. Fees will be charged from April 1st through September 11th, however all day use areas will stay open through October 28th. Active duty service members on military leave from duty in Iraq are also provided use of facilities free of charge, excluding shelter reservations made over the web. Proof of leave must be provided upon request. For more information, please contact the Resource Manager's Office at (615) 889-1975.





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Nashville District

**Resource Managers Office
J. Percy Priest Lake
3737 Bell Road
Nashville, Tennessee 37214-2660
www.lrn.usace.army.mil/op/JPP/rec/**

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J. PERCY PRIEST FISHING INFO

J. Percy Priest offers anglers a multitude of fishing opportunities year-round. Call or stop by our office to obtain lake-specific fishing information about J. Percy Priest. The handout provides information regarding licensing requirements, lake creel and size limits, fish attractor permits, and fishing ethics. Daily fishing information, lake/tailwater elevations, and generation schedule can be obtained Monday – Friday from the J. Percy Priest Fishing Information Line at (615) 883-2351, or at the J. Percy Priest website- www.lrn.usace.army.mil/op/JPP/rec/. Additional information concerning weekend water release schedules can be obtained by calling TVA at 1-800-238-2264. The access code for J. Percy Priest is **48**.



J. PERCY PRIEST RESOURCE MANAGEMENT STAFF

The J. Percy Priest Resource Management staff welcomes questions and comments, so give them a call at (615) 889-1975.

Resource Manager – Todd Yann
Conservation Biologist – Sherry Roberts
Environmental Protection Specialist – Mark Vaughan
Park Ranger Justin Reed – Dam LB to Hobson Pike
Park Ranger John Baird – Hobson Pike to Nice Mill
Park Ranger Robert Davis – Fate Sanders to JPP/R Dam
Administrative Assistant – Zan Blackburn
Student Aide – Michelle Mangrum
Co-op Ranger – Steven Gregory
Civil Engineering Tech/Facility Manager - Greg Thomas (temporarily on duty in Iraq)
Civil Engineering Tech – Mike Hight
Supply Technician – Harry Newkirk
Construction Inspector – Jewel Spivey
Park Contract Inspector – Janice Nelson
Maintenance Mechanic - Joe Walker